

REMARKS

Claims 70-76 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 77-87 have been added by amendment. Claim 70 has been amended to overcome the objection to this claim in the most recent Office Action and therefore claims 70-76 should now be allowable. Claims 1-69 have been canceled. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more continuing applications directed to the subject matter of these canceled claims.

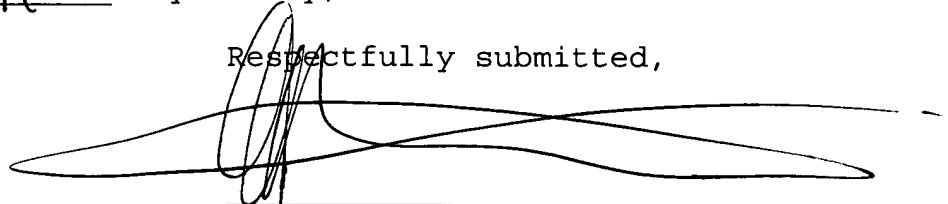
Claims 77-87 should also be allowable as claim 77, the independent claim, recites the use of beat mats, which feature the Examiner previously found was novel when compared to the prior art. In particular, the prior art does not teach or suggest the use of beat mats that are laid out to indicate the number of beats in a musical measure. Thus, claims 77-87 should also be allowed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that claims 70-87 are allowable and the same is respectfully requested. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Amendment, and such impediment could be alleviated during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to initiate the same.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-0836.

DATED this 11 day of May, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Grant R. Clayton', written over a horizontal line.

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